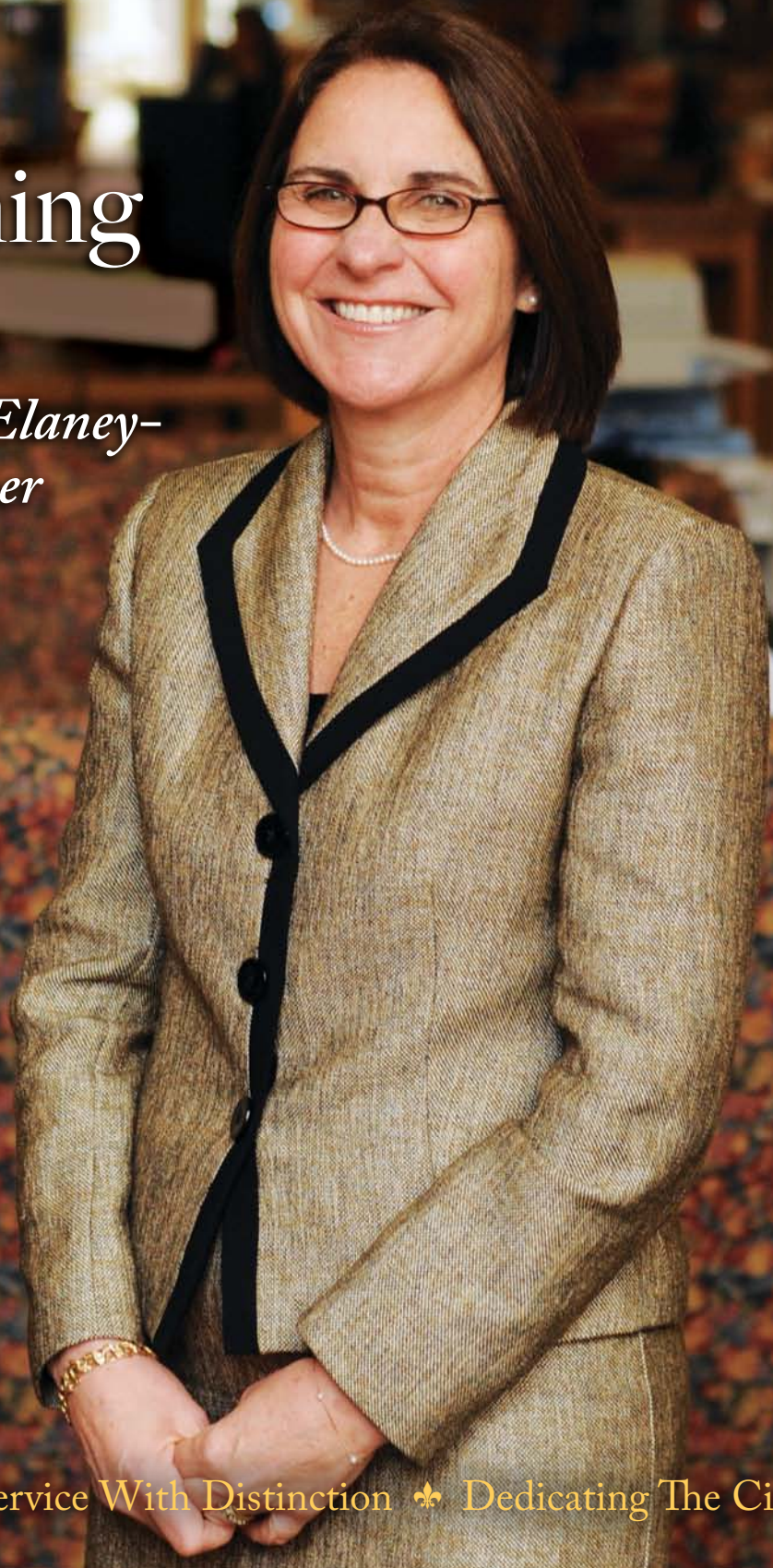


THE MOUNT

Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles ♣ Summer/Fall 2011

Transforming Lives

*President Ann McElaney-
Johnson on the power
of education*



Business Sense ♣ Service With Distinction ♣ Dedicating The Circle

from the president

Dear Readers,

It is with great joy that I greet you today as Mount St. Mary's 12th president! As I have expressed to many of you, my husband, Dave, and I are thrilled to be part of this extraordinary community. When I had the pleasure of visiting the beautiful Chalon and Doheny campuses last January, I fell in love with this wonderful institution — the remarkable people, the rich history, and the exquisite buildings and grounds. I was also struck by the way this community lives out its mission as a Catholic college with such integrity and focus. True to the calling of its founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, the College is committed to providing our students with a quality education imbued with a sense of responsibility for others. Our students immerse themselves in the study of the liberal arts and sciences as they cultivate their capacity as leaders and their understanding of true service. Our founders' commitment to "helping women become all they are capable of being" and "serving all persons without distinction" permeates the life of the College. I am proud to be part of such a community.



It is clear that Mount St. Mary's alums are women and men who grasp the responsibilities of true leadership and service that accompany the privilege of a premiere educational experience. It has been my pleasure to meet the faculty and staff who shepherd our students across their years here at the Mount — and it has been a joy to meet our students and our alums, the beneficiaries of this exceptional education. What an impressive and dynamic group of women and men you are!

I look forward to getting to know the entire Mount community in the coming months and years. My husband and I, along with our three daughters, Emma, Rachel and Caroline, are honored to join the Mount St. Mary's College family. Thank you for your warm welcome. It is nice to be home here at the Mount.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann McElaney-Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Johnson" being more prominent.

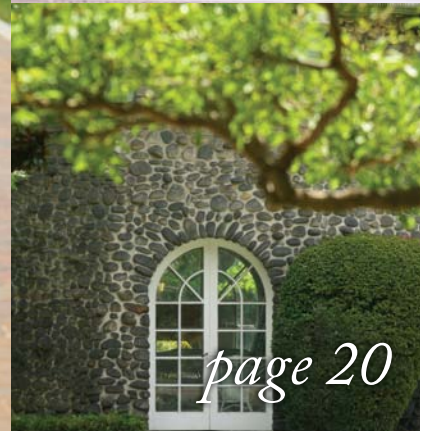
Ann McElaney-Johnson
President



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Transforming Lives

The Mount's 12th president shares her passion for education.

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Overcoming the Great Recession

The Mount's undergraduate business program thrives despite economic uncertainty.

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ON THE COVER:
President Ann McElaney-Johnson enjoys the
Charles Willard Coe Memorial Library on the Chalon Campus.
Photo by Carlos Puma

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Jennifer Chotiner, associate professor of biology, lectures about the effects of Alzheimer's disease on brain function to students at the Doheny Campus.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Mount St. Mary's College offers a dynamic learning experience in the liberal arts and sciences to a diverse student body. As a Catholic college primarily for women, we are dedicated to providing a superior education enhanced by an emphasis on building leadership skills and fostering a spirit to serve others. Our measure of success is graduates who are committed to using their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their environments and the world.

Mount St. Mary's College is a diverse community committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of any characteristic protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation.

Women & Spirit Exhibit Opens



In June, the Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America exhibit opened with a special reception for sisters, regents, trustees and College administrators. From left to right: Sister Mary Hughes, OP, president of Leadership Conference of Women Religious; Mount President Emerita Jacqueline Powers Doud; Sister Helen Maher Garvey, BVM, member of the LCWR history committee; and former Mount President Sister Karen Kennelly, CSJ, celebrate together.

Mount Hosts Farewell Gala for Retiring President

Mount St. Mary's College hosted an evening of dinner, dance and special festivities in June to honor retiring president Jacqueline Powers Doud. The gala, *Une Belle Époque*, raised \$521,000 for the Robert E. Doud and Jacqueline Powers Doud Scholarship Fund. More than 550 guests attended, making it the largest celebration ever hosted by the College.

During the program, the College bestowed a unique award upon Doud — the title of President Emerita — which recognized her for achievements in advancing the mission of the Mount. It is the first such award in the history of the College, and a title that is recognized in academia to designate someone who led her institution with distinction.

The evening was co-chaired by Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan and Rob Smith. The Grand Prix sponsor for the gala was the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. *Pièce de Résistance* sponsors included Doud's sister, Nancy Powers Johnson; and Monica (Spillane) Luechtefeld '71, a member of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Jim Cole generously donated all of the wine and Jeff Whitman, co-chair of the Regents Council, was the master of ceremonies.

from the faculty

Scott Bryson, professor of English, delivered the plenary speech, "Place, Space, and Los Angeles: Defining 'Nature' in the City of Freeways and Concrete," at the Natures 2011: Graduate Humanities Conference in February at La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif.

Jane Crawford, professor of history, presented a paper at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association convention in Albuquerque, N.M., in October 2010 on "Christine de Pizan's 'City of the Ladies' as Memory House."

Pam Haldeman '86, director of the film and social justice program; **Sande Harte '86**, chair of the sociology department; and sociology instructors **Michelle Lagrimas '05**, **Julianne McMurtry** and **Amanda Romero '04** presented "Preparing Students for Global Citizenship" at the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities in San Francisco in January.

Michael Heim, lecturer in the master in humanities program, delivered the keynote address, "Time, Space and Dream Life: Human-Avatar Identity in Today's Workplace," in December at the Multimodal Conference 2010 at the Creative Industries Research Institute, part of the Auckland University of Technology in Auckland, New Zealand. Heim's most recent book, "The Metaphysics of Virtual Reality," was recently translated into Persian.

from the faculty

Alan Lee, assistant professor of physical therapy, received the Adopt-A-Doc Scholarship from the American Physical Therapy Association education section in February in New Orleans. The scholarship is for a student in the dissertation phase of his or her physical therapy PhD program, and awarded based on demonstrated leadership in academics and physical therapy practice.

Elizabeth Sturgeon, associate professor of English, chaired a panel, "Custom, Code and the Common Law," at the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities in Las Vegas in March. She also presented "Staging the Making of an English History Book: The Biblio-historical Act in 'Mirror for Magistrates' (1559)" at the Shakespeare Association of America in Bellevue, Wash., in April.

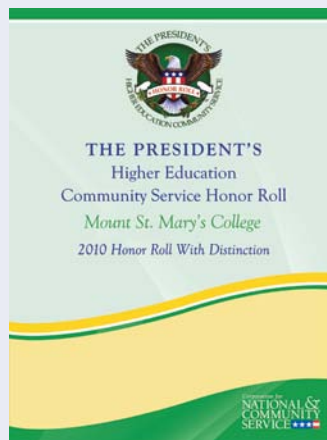
Valerie Teglia '96, associate professor of physical therapy and director of clinical education, was elected to serve a two-year term as secretary of the California Physical Therapy Board in October 2010.

Mount Granted Special Status on President's Community Service Honor Roll

Mount St. Mary's was honored in May with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with distinction for outstanding service to greater Los Angeles. It is the third consecutive year that Mount St. Mary's earned a place on the Honor Roll, but it is the first year that the College received the recognition with distinction.

"It is a great privilege for Mount St. Mary's to be honored with distinction for the College's ongoing dedication to community service," said President Emerita Jacqueline Powers Doud. "The Mount actively engages students in service through programs that emphasize the importance of addressing real community needs and giving back to Los Angeles."

Launched in 2006 by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Honor Roll



is the highest federal recognition a college or university can achieve for its commitment to community service and civic engagement.

Mount St. Mary's was recognized for its exceptional student outreach programs. The Student Ambassador program provides essential college

preparatory and mentoring support to approximately 7,500 at-risk youth in the Los Angeles region annually. The College also organizes Live at the Mount, a program that helps high school students experience a college campus.

The distinction indicates that Mount St. Mary's displays a strong institutional commitment to service and has formed results-driven community partnerships. Mount St. Mary's was one of 114 schools across the country to receive the honor with distinction.

New Trustees, Regents Join College

The Mount's Board of Trustees named two new members this spring: Sister Annette Debs, CSJ, '61 and Stephen F. Page. Debs serves as a judge for the state of California in unemployment compensation cases, and disability and tax matters. She was appointed in May 1992. Page retired in 2004 as director, vice chairman and chief financial officer of United Technologies Corp. He currently serves on the corporate boards of Lowe's Companies, PACCAR and Liberty Mutual.

The College also welcomed three new members to the Regents Council: Barbara Buckman '63, Patricia Ann Cribbs '85 and Janet (Wolff) Maulhardt '69. Council members are dedicated volunteers whose mission is enhancing the College's visibility and leading fundraising initiatives.

Expand Your Mind at Homecoming Workshops



Exploring China Today

Gain insight into China's culture, its people, current political climate and economy. Hear personal travel stories, learn business tips and find out about the Mount's annual trip to China.



Learn West Coast Swing

Learn a line dance based on West Coast Swing, the official state dance of California. Devotees of line dancing say it is great exercise, relieves stress and is fun. No partner is required.



The Arab Spring: An In-depth Analysis

What was the catalyst that sparked the Arab Spring? What are the consequences for the region, the governments and the people? This workshop will explore the politics of the Middle East.



"Tune Up" Your Career

In today's job market, it's important to know how to become the best applicant. Discover ways to score that job or promotion, including resume tips, interviewing techniques, networking pointers, and guidelines for attire and etiquette.



Ultimate Workout Plan for Your Brain

Do memory games help your brain stay in top shape? Does what you eat matter? Can exercise make you smarter? Learn to distinguish myths from facts to keep your brain healthy.



Cook Like a Professional

Want to learn to julienne, braise or sear? Take a lesson from a master and go home cooking like a pro. Everyone, from the novice to the most advanced chef, will learn something new.

Come Back Home — Homecoming 2011

Homecoming is Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Chalon Campus. This year, Homecoming falls on the actual anniversary of the College's founding. The event is for all alums, including those with associate, bachelor's, master's and doctor of physical therapy degrees, and credential and certificate recipients.

Homecoming will include:

- Expand Your Mind at Homecoming Workshops
- Founders Day Liturgy celebrated by Father George O'Brien
- Reunions for the baccalaureate classes of '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01 and '06, with a special recognition of the 25th Silver Anniversary Class of '86 (photos will be taken)
- Homecoming Dinner for all attendees
- Concert premiering the Mount orchestra
- After-hours coffee bar

Also, plan to attend Founders Week activities offered on both campuses from Oct. 9–12. This year's events are Alumnae Mass, Mount Spirit Day, Mount Treasure Hunt and an Alum Bake-Off.

For information about Homecoming and Founders Week, call 213.477.2769 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu/homecoming2011.

in brief

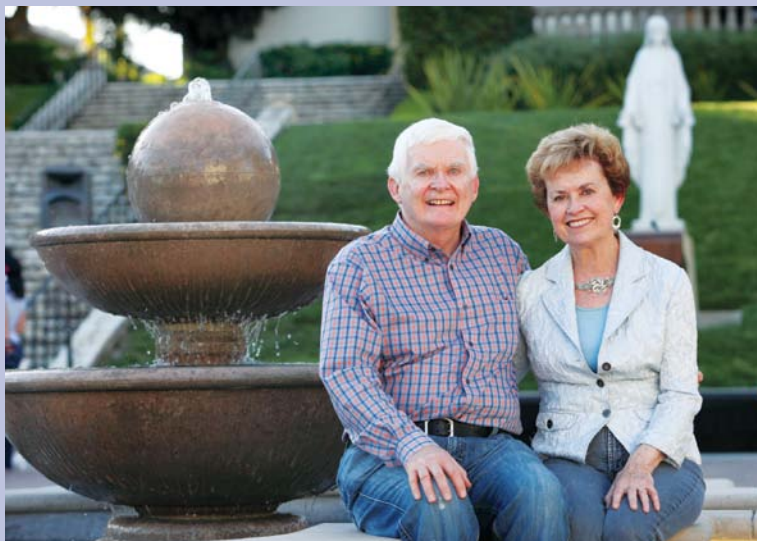
College Participates in Religious Education Congress

The College had a large presence at this year's Religious Education Congress, held in March at the Anaheim Convention Center. The event drew 30,000–40,000 participants, making it the largest annual gathering of Catholics in the world. Gail Gresser, director of campus ministry, served on the Liturgy Committee that planned 19 liturgies during the four-day event. More than 35 Mount students assisted with the liturgies and with hospitality, while Laura Gomez and Gaile Krause, assistant directors of campus ministry, participated in the choirs. The new Archbishop of Los Angeles, José Gomez, presided over the congress for the first time.



Mount Senior Wins Top Honors at Mock Trial Contest

Yevgeniya (Jane) Kutepova '11 was honored at the American Mock Trial Association competition in Los Angeles in February, winning the All Region Best Attorney award. Kutepova, a political science major, and a team of Mount students competed among 300 college and university peers from institutions including Stanford, USC and Arizona State University. In 2010, Kutepova won the Best Witness honor.



Dedicating The Circle at Chalon

The central area of the Chalon Campus, known as The Circle, was dedicated in April in honor of President Emerita Jacqueline Powers Doud. In the center of this newly-redesigned plaza is now a fountain, which provides a beautiful gateway to Mary Chapel. Students paid special tribute to Doud's 20 years of service to the College through song, dance and speeches. Shown here, Jacqueline Powers Doud sits by the fountain with her husband, Robert Doud.

Political Science Majors Awarded Pre-Law Scholarships

Winners of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher pre-law scholarships were announced in April. The \$2,500 scholarship winners are Mayra Duque '11 and Alicia Herrera '11. Winners of the \$1,250 scholarships are Genevieve Cawthorn '11, Adriana Garrido '11, Chloe Long '11 and Natasha Tadros '11. All are political science majors, with minors in pre-law.



Student Government Leaders Host Conference

Last November, the Chalon associated student body hosted more than 150 college students from across the country for the annual American Student Government Association Los Angeles conference. The conference offered student government leaders the opportunity to hear various speakers on topics such as improving public speaking skills, reaching out to a student body and advocating for change on campus.

College Community Unites to Serve

In March, the College's largest number of alum, faculty, staff and student volunteers came together for the fifth annual All College Day of Service. More than 95 people spent a Saturday helping local nonprofit groups. Activities included cleaning up two locations of the St. Joseph Center, preparing and serving food at the Union Rescue Mission and Adam's Harbor, sorting food at the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, and cleaning up a beach in Santa Monica with Heal the Bay.



Graduate Nursing Program Honored As Leader in Health Care

The Mount's graduate nursing program was honored with a Health Care Leadership Award for its innovative curriculum by the Los Angeles Business Journal in April. The Business Journal also named Marsha Sato, director of the master of science in nursing programs, as a finalist for special achievement in health care. The Mount's nursing faculty is nationally recognized as a leader in nursing education for developing two graduate programs: a master's in nursing program and a bridge program designed to prepare RNs to complete their undergraduate coursework and earn a graduate nursing degree.



Mount Students Lobby Legislators for Cal Grants

Students Alicia Herrera '11 (left) and Adriana Garrido '11 (right) greeted California Assemblyman Mike Feuer during a meeting at the Capitol in March for Cal Grant Lobby Day. Feuer's district includes the Chalon Campus, where Herrera and Garrido studied political science. The event, organized by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, provides students with one-on-one sessions with lawmakers and their staff to make the case for preserving or enhancing Cal Grants.

Team Athena Walks to Fight Cancers in Women

Members of the College community, along with their family and friends, participated in the 18th Annual Revlon Run/Walk for Women in May, raising nearly \$3,000. The 60 members of the Mount Athenians team donned T-shirts designed by Homeboy Industries, and were sponsored by both Omega Rho, the nursing honor society, and Master of Science in Nursing program alums. The College also staffed a water station along the route.

Mount Opens New Student Services Center

In May, the College opened the new student services center on the Doheny Campus at 745 W. Adams Blvd. The building centralizes student support offices, including admission, financial aid, academic advisement, the business office, the registrar and information technology. The offices are located in a renovated historic home adjacent to the College on property purchased this past year.

Religious Studies Hosts Muslim Neighbors Symposium

The Mount hosted a thought-provoking "Muslim Neighbors" symposium at the Doheny Campus in February. "Most Americans are miseducated about Muslim people and have even formed a fear about them," says event creator Rosamond Rodman, an assistant professor in the Mount's religious studies department. "This symposium helped by addressing the source of misconceptions, and by providing better sources of information about Islam." Keynote speaker Sumbul Ali-Karamali, an author and Muslim scholar, offered an introduction to Islam and Islamic law, the Qur'an, the media, and "that veil thing." About 150 people attended the event, which was open to the public.



Students Head to Capitol Hill

Mount students traveled to Washington, D.C., this past year, joining peers from 17 other women's colleges as part of the Public Leadership Education Network. This national organization's sole mission is preparing women for public leadership. In November, Mayra Duque '11, Adriana Garrido '11, Karina Morales '12 and Natasha Tadros '11 attended the Women, Law and Public Policy Seminar. Kelsey Miller '13, Christina Villagomez '12 and Sanam Yaghtin '11 attended the Women, Science/Technology Policy



College Celebrates Commencement 2011

Close to 700 new Mount St. Mary's College graduates celebrated their academic accomplishments in May with a ceremony at Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, Calif. Sister Judy Vaughan, CSJ, '68, founding director of Alexandria House, delivered the address. Also at commencement, the College honored Most Rev. Gabino Zavala with the Carondelet Medal. He is auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles' San Gabriel Pastoral Region.

Seminar in January. Students joined interactive panels, met influential leaders and attended dynamic briefings to understand how public policy is influenced and developed. Mount St. Mary's has participated in the PLEN for two decades.

CSJs Celebrate Anniversaries

The Mount community celebrated CSJ anniversaries on the Chalon Campus in March with cake, tributes and song. Sister Mary Constance Fitzgerald is celebrating 80 years, and celebrating 75 years is Sister Patricia Margaret Barnard. Those celebrating 60 years include: Sister Anita Joseph Aragon '50, Sister Kathleen Mary McCarthy, Sister Margaret Anne Vonderahe '58 and Sister Marie Bernadette Walsh. Celebrating 50 years are: Sister

Marilyn Louise Binder '65, '74 MS, a former Mount trustee; and Sister Carlotta DiLorenzo.

Mount Students Tour Cuba

In December, 21 Mount students and faculty members made the College's first group trip in recent years to Cuba. The travelers, most of them students in the Mount's graduate programs and Weekend College, got a rare glimpse of life in the small communist nation. Since 1962, travel from the U.S. to Cuba has been banned, but some Americans and other foreign visitors have been allowed into the country under various policies. The Mount group was welcomed as a humanitarian group and delivered canes and glasses to a school for blind children.



Student Publishes Book

Vernice Grajera '11 (above), a Spanish studies major, became a published author in April when her senior thesis was printed. The 64-page thesis, "Nacionalismo y la expulsión de los judíos de España en 1492," is about the three Jewish expulsions by the Visigoths, the Muslims and the Christians in what is now Spain. This fall, Grajera will begin a doctoral program in medieval studies at the Catholic University of America.

MSMC Purchases Clean-Fuel Shuttles

College officials recently purchased two new, 32-seat buses and converted them to run on the clean-fuel option of compressed natural gas (CNG). "We decided to go with compressed natural gas to do our share and burn cleaner fuel and contribute to helping our planet," says College transportation manager Patricia Williams. Shuttle ridership at the College shot up from an average of about 2,000 riders a week in January 2010 to 3,200 riders a week last August. Shuttles run nearly 17 hours each day. The College has plans to purchase more of the clean fuel buses, which cost about \$135,000 each. The Mount has a total of 10 shuttles in its fleet, as well as two passenger vans.

Mount Nursing Students Win Award for Unmasking Sugary Drinks

At the Society of Pediatric Nurses Annual Convention in April, a group of Mount nursing students received the People's Choice Award for their poster, "What Are You Drinking?"

Using an interactive activity and visual representation, the nursing students asked volunteers to match beverages to the correct amount of sugar in each drink. Bags of sugar demonstrated the content of the beverages. The students are members of the California Nursing Students Association, and represented the association during their presentation at the convention.



MSMC Graduate Programs Excel

Two Mount graduate programs are nationally ranked by U.S. News & World Report. The master's in nursing program was highlighted in rankings released by the news organization in March. The doctor of physical therapy program is ranked among similar programs nationwide.



College Goes Green at Earth Day Festivities

On April 21, the College hosted an Earth Day Fair on the Chalon Campus. Sponsored by the "green

FUN FACTS



Locks of Love

In March, Mount students and staff clipped as much as 10 inches from their hair to help create wigs for women and children with cancer. Here's a look at the event, called "Make the Cut," in numbers:

503

Total inches of hair donated

42

Ponytails

34

People who made the cut

12

Hairstylists

5

Hours of hair cutting

team" sustainability committee, the event promoted responsible stewardship of the planet. Vendors included the Tree People, California Recycles, AMP Radio, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Creative Faces. Students gathered information on nuclear power plants, designed emergency preparedness plans and emergency kits, and munched on locally-grown produce provided by Bon Appétit, the Mount's catering service.

Transforming LIVES

As she begins her term as the new president of Mount St. Mary's College, Ann McElaney-Johnson shares her passion for the transformative power of education.

BY AARON SMITH

PHOTOS BY CARLOS PUMA

In February, the Mount St. Mary's College Board of Trustees named Ann McElaney-Johnson the 12th president in the College's 86-year history. She assumed leadership of the Mount on July 1, 2011.

In announcing the selection, Michael A. Enright, Board of Trustees chair, said: "This is a historic time in the life of our College, and Dr. McElaney-Johnson will carry forward with energy and vision the mission of Mount St. Mary's College."

McElaney-Johnson succeeds Jacqueline Powers Doud, who served the institution for more than 20 years, including 11 as president.

"Dr. McElaney-Johnson has an appreciation of all the work of Dr. Doud, who did so much for the College and the community," said Sister Barbara Anne Stowasser, provincial of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. "She is standing on the shoulders of a tremendous person who paved the way for a smooth transition. She has an appreciation for the richness of diversity here — not only in our student body, but in our faculty and the community that we serve. She sees the importance of building trust, and her enthusiasm is certainly evident."

Kalamazoo College President Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran used to work closely with McElaney-Johnson at Salem College, where McElaney-Johnson was most recently vice president for academic and student affairs. "She has the capacity to call people together to get things done," Wilson-Oyelaran said. "She is creative, and she is unafraid to make hard decisions when required. I think you all have a real star."

Preparing for her move from Winston-Salem, N.C., to Los Angeles in June, McElaney-Johnson spoke with *The Mount* about her background, core beliefs and hopes for Mount St. Mary's.





President Ann McElaney-Johnson addressed College supporters and students at the Annual Scholarship Luncheon in February on the Chalon Campus.

Among several outstanding candidates, you were chosen to lead the College. Tell us why you chose Mount St. Mary's.

An institution needs to know and live its mission. One thing that struck me about Mount St. Mary's is that people clearly understand the mission, and they live it out with such integrity. It reflects the philosophy of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet: serving the underserved. This college provides opportunity to women who might not have it otherwise. That was very compelling.

At Salem, I came to understand what can happen in a space that is designed by and for women, and the transformational power that environment can have in helping women find a voice and prepare for life and purpose.

I'm also getting back to my Catholic education roots — I had an undergraduate Catholic education that was life-changing and informed the way I have lived my life since.

What's at the top of your agenda as you arrive?

Next year is the final year of the current strategic plan, and most of it will have been accomplished by the time Dr. Doud retires. So it will be a good year to plan. Dr. Doud has been incredibly generous with her time. She walked me through the issues and operational structures. I was also able to meet with members of the executive team about their work. They gave me a good sense of the pulse of both campuses.

Rather than coming in with an agenda, I look forward to engaging with the full community as we look to the next five years. That is a community activity — coming up with the priorities and the hopes and dreams.

Several different constituencies have asked if there is an opportunity to expand athletics. At Salem, we developed a competitive intercollegiate athletics program and joined a conference. It brought a lot of energy to our campus, and

I think it's wonderful for women to play competitively. The skills they learn being part of a team are life skills. So that's one area I would love to explore.

Academically, we'll continue to explore programs with the faculty that will bring students to the College. We want majors and programs that are infused with the liberal arts and prepare students professionally for careers that are growing.

How do you approach your role as a leader?

My style is collaborative and collegial. I invite lots of input, and I enjoy spirited debate. We're stronger when we speak candidly to each other and when people feel free to bring different views to the table. I can make much better decisions if I've truly heard the opinions of people who have lenses I don't have. That's important whether it's a small-group decision, a campuswide initiative or a visioning process.

How will your background guide you as president?

I have experience at different colleges as a student, a faculty member and an administrator, so I've seen how they work from various perspectives. Being at a women's college for 13 years has helped me understand the benefits and the challenges of serving first-generation students who do not have a lot of financial means. I have a good understanding of the strategies that can be put in place to support those students and to continue to drive access.

Have you had mentors who helped shape your perspective?

That's a great question — it's one I ask students! My most recent mentor brought me to Salem — Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran. I've always respected her inclusive leadership, integrity and commitment to higher education and the development of women.

As an undergraduate at Holy Cross College, Father Bob Manning, who was the chaplain and a member of the religion faculty, helped me understand and probe my Catholic faith — how it aligns to social justice, makes change in the world and provides a voice for those who do not have one.

Another mentor was my sister Kim McElaney, who served at Holy Cross for 25 years and was head of the chaplain's office. She passed away in 2010. In many ways, I feel this position is a continuation of her legacy. I saw the impact she had on young people, and that has motivated me even further.

What inspires and drives you?

I believe absolutely in the transformative power of education. And I believe that colleges such as Mount St. Mary's have a unique opportunity to change lives in the most concrete and inspirational

ways. When I talk to students and hear what they're about, it gives me such a sense of joy and purpose that I'm happy to put in the long, hard hours.

I really believe that colleges play such an important role in our society and communities. At Mount St. Mary's, what captures my imagination and my heart is the way the College can transform the lives of young women, giving them the opportunity to discover their own possibility and potential.

So after all the long hours, how do you spend your free time?

I love going to movies, stepping away and immersing myself in great stories. I love good food, preparing it and eating it. And I enjoy hiking and running. I'm a slow runner, but it's good mental processing time for me. Los Angeles is a great spot for all those things!

What do you hope your legacy will be at the Mount?

Wow! I hope to help this incredible institution thrive. What that will look like, I don't know. As one person on campus said to me, "We serve the daughters of L.A.," and that has stuck with me. I hope I will have done what I need to do to secure the future of the Mount. I want to leave knowing: job well done.

For President Ann McElaney-Johnson's biography and full CV, visit www.msmc.la.edu/president. ♣



Genevieve (Castellanos) Denault '53, a regent and chair of the Mount Associates (left), and Jessica Sanchez-Caridad '01, a Latina Alumnae Network board member (right), greet President Ann McElaney-Johnson at an alum reception in February at the Doheny Mansion.





OVERCOMING THE GREAT RECESSION

WITH ITS
LOS ANGELES
LOCALE AND
FOCUS ON
NETWORKING,
THE MOUNT'S
UNDERGRADUATE
BUSINESS PROGRAM
THRIVES.

BY JOANNA BANKS

PHOTOS BY CARLOS PUMA

Brittany Galin '11 steps into the familiar haze outside the landmark Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Hollywood Boulevard hums with activity, even in recession-steeped Los Angeles. It is a good day to be an accountant. In these hard times, Galin knows how to read a balance sheet. And that is valuable.

The scene unfolded last summer when Galin, a business administration major with an emphasis in accounting, interned in the accounts receivable department for Thompson Hotels, owner and manager of boutique hotels. Like other Mount students of her generation, Galin committed to a business major in a time of deep recession. "The TV shows and movies you watch,



Brittany Galin '11 says her Mount business administration degree with an emphasis in accounting put her on track to excel during her summer 2010 internship with the Thompson Hotels group.

attend an ongoing speaker series featuring inspiring businesswomen and men, and soak up knowledge through the many layers of academic life at the College.

FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS

Accessible and well-connected faculty play a large part in energizing academic and professional futures. Professors focus their teaching on the core of the College's character-building philosophy, says Mark Alhanati, business department chair. Toughness counts, especially now. The business program is grounded in fundamentals: Learning to analyze financial statements is equally important whether a student is focused on accounting, marketing or international business. A good foundation that includes strong networking skills can make the difference in finding a job quickly.

"We are a business department within a liberal arts institution," Alhanati says. "We infuse ethics coursework into all of our classes. The strength of our program and success of our students is grounded in a strong core curriculum, which is further enriched by access to student-governed professional organizations. And, as a women's college, teaching communication skills is one of our strengths. The students learn to take risks. Many colleges of business require four math classes to graduate, but that's not who we are. We'd rather students take courses in philosophy and religion so they can learn how to think."

Bonnie Hill, a businesswoman and past presidential appointee to numerous federal posts, spoke to Mount business students in 2010 as part of the business department's signature Vantage Point Speaker Series.

the music you listen to, the places where you shop and eat — accounting is as close to recession-proof as you can get," Galin says. "Everyone and every company requires an accountant."

Until 2010, surveys of college freshmen suggested that fewer incoming students across the country were on the same path as Galin, with business majors shrinking in popularity. As the recession deepened, the lean economy may have cast doubt on the viability of a career in business, according to the annual Freshman Survey coordinated by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA.

The institute's 2009 freshman survey showed that the percentage of U.S. college freshmen planning to major in business fell to its lowest level since the mid-1970s. Overall, freshmen were less likely to pursue a career in business than ever before in the 44-year history of the survey. The institute closely watched the 2010 survey data, released in January 2011, for hints of renewed interest in business, and there was no further decline reported, says Linda DeAngelo, assistant director for research for the institute's Cooperative Institutional Research Program. The "undeclared" category appeared to be where many would-be business majors ended up during the drop-off, DeAngelo adds.

For Galin and her Mount St. Mary's classmates, the major remains a stable, viable choice. The number of traditional undergraduates enrolled as business majors has increased substantially in the last five years. Business undergraduates benefit from the Mount's Los Angeles locale, enjoying access to major entertainment companies and international firms. They know success is possible based on the prosperous paths of business alums. Among other avenues, students build connections through internships,



Erika Peraza '11 turned her business education with a management emphasis into full-time employment upon graduation from the Mount at fashion company BCBG: Max Azria. Peraza designed "looks" for the company's clothing line during a lengthy internship.

A Mount undergraduate business degree is a passport to opportunity for this group of Millennials — a driven and tech-savvy generation of women. They are not deterred, having found the character at the Mount to move forward in spite of the Great Recession. During summer 2010, the College placed an all-time high of 12 students in internships and professional positions in the Los Angeles offices of the world's four largest international accounting firms. Recent graduates have been hired by Ernst & Young, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Deloitte LLP and KPMG LLP. Mount alumna Zulema Garcia '95 is a partner at KPMG LLP.

IT TAKES A NETWORK

Erika Jorge '10 says she experienced the first wave of the recession during her senior year but remained confident that a business degree was the right path for her. The College's Los Angeles address helped her gain experience during a string of internships with entertainment companies before she graduated. As a marketing student seeking contacts, Jorge joined the Mount's chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Through a regional competition of marketing students from other colleges and universities, she made more connections.

"Internships are huge, and all the leadership positions I held on campus were extremely important," Jorge says. "I used to think that getting a job was all about GPA. At the end of the day, it's really about your experience and contacts." When she was a student working in the College's admission office, a staff member recommended her for an internship at DreamWorks Studios. She proactively sought



out another internship at Saks Fifth Avenue and then contacted E! Entertainment herself, where she was hired for a third internship.

"My classmates and I just kept pushing for more internships," says Jorge, whose E! Entertainment contact ultimately connected her with her current employer, MediaCom. Jorge, an assistant media planner with the Burbank, Calif., company, deals with digital technology and works primarily with people under 30.

Jorge's persistence with landing internships and building connections was fostered by the steady guidance of faculty. "I first started an internship program because we believed it should be required for business students," says David Leese, professor of business and director of the department's internship program. Leese previously chaired the department for 18 years.

"In the beginning, I spent a lot of time trying to place the students. We don't do that now," Leese says. "What we

AN MBA FROM AN INTERNATIONAL CITY

Mount St. Mary's launched its MBA program in 2008 with concentrations in entrepreneurship, health services management, nonprofit management and organizational leadership. Today, the program counts 81 graduates from varied backgrounds — real estate, education and public service, among them. The program is offered in a weekend format to those with a bachelor's degree in any field. Classes are held at the Doheny Campus in the heart of Los Angeles. All students participate in a 10-day international travel-study course to China as part of their MBA curriculum.

A Mount MBA replaces the traditional course-by-course master's curriculum with theme-based modules. By blending business disciplines that are traditionally kept separate — marketing, finance and business law — students develop a "big picture" view of how disciplines come together in the actual business environment. The degree culminates in a real-world final consulting project from an organization of the student's choice.



do now is say to students, 'We will give you the resources, but you have to go out and find the internships.' Now our students go out and kick the doors in."

GAINING REAL-WORLD SKILLS

Dennis Signorovitch, an instructor of management communications at the College since 2003, spent 30 years in the private-sector world of corporate communications and market research. He brings his practical perspective into the classroom. "I tell my students, 'There aren't any easy paths to glory and riches, but the opportunities in business for those who have a strong grounding in the fundamentals are not going away,'" he says. "At the end of the day, it's still a trillion-dollar economy. That number might diminish over time, but that just means you have to sharpen your skills to compete in a tougher environment."

Signorovitch drills his students on writing in business, especially producing sales reports and strategic plans, and negotiating balance sheets and income statements. "They hear about management principles and management information systems. The dirty little secret is that a lot of people in business programs won't pick up these skills, so if they do, they have an advantage. Also, they can count on the fact that some people won't be as motivated as they are."

Signorovitch heads the business department's signature Vantage Point series, a showcase of speakers from the business world who come to the College to share their expertise. Past speakers have included Style Network and E! Entertainment executive Salaam Coleman Smith; Michele Rhilinger '75, vice president of Weyerhaeuser, a Fortune 500 company in Seattle; and Gisselle Acevedo, president and CEO of Para Los Niños, a nonprofit organization that serves impoverished children.

The series offers the kind of inspirational stories about

Karla Cotez '12, a business major with a marketing emphasis, confidently took her classroom experience into Universal Music Group's Latin artist division during her 2010 summer internship.

women who made it that students crave. The opportunity to meet successful women in a smaller setting — along with regular, direct access to faculty — is an important selling point, says Erika Peraza '11, a business student with a management emphasis. "Mount St. Mary's may be a smaller school, but it's a women's college, and that makes a big difference to me," Peraza says. "A lot of times women feel afraid to put themselves out there, especially in a male-dominated society. At Mount St. Mary's, you're not worrying about what guys are thinking. The women here are empowered."

Peraza held an extended internship position with the fashion company BCBG: Max Azria for several months beginning in summer 2010. Shortly after her December 2010 graduation, the company hired Peraza for a full-time position in retail human resources. During her internship, Peraza worked out of the company's Vernon headquarters and successfully took on a series of high-profile projects, including assisting with a style guide of clothing "looks" for the 2010 holiday season. The style guide was adopted by retail store associates for the company's MaxRave line for women ages 18 to 25. Peraza says she and her classmates see the challenging economic landscape as a training ground. "You have to be able to do it all. You have to have skills to do different jobs, to be versatile. I feel like I'm a jack of all trades, and I want to be moving vertically constantly."

SOMEONE IMPORTANT

Karla Cortez '12 spent last summer interning at Universal Music Group in the Latin artist division. Cortez, whose emphasis is marketing and minor is graphic design, nurtured her business sense in her family's flower shops. She saw how the recession ate away at the family nest egg — forcing her parents to close their two shops and shift to a home business.

Cortez says her internship and close interaction with Mount business faculty has framed her career goal to design beautiful album covers for musicians. "I want to be someone important. I want to be a vital piece of a big company," she says. "I know there are going to be tons of people laid off that already have skills and experience. That means I have to work harder. I've always thought big," she adds, "and I've always been dedicated to my studies. My priority is my education." ♣



Photo: Scott MacDonald of The Salinas Californian

Centenarian Eileen (Nason) Rhyner '32 Offers College Long-Standing Support

Eileen (Nason) Rhyner '32 is proud of the Mount. Eileen, who celebrated her 100th birthday in May, has seen the College flourish over the years and remains a loyal supporter.

She fondly recalls singing at her first Christmas Mass in Brady Hall. "It's one of my favorite memories," says Eileen, who majored in music. "Back then, everything happened in Brady because it was one of the only buildings on campus."

When she graduated during the Great Depression, Eileen was fortunate to find a job teaching music at a parochial school in Prescott, Ariz. After three years, she returned to California and taught music at an elementary school in Sherman Oaks until she retired in 1971.

"I like giving to the Mount because I still feel connected," she says. "The College has done well with its resources. The Mount has created new departments and earned quite a reputation as a nursing school." She now lives in Northern California.

with thanks

Weingart Foundation — Donated \$300,000 for the renovation of 745 W. Adams Blvd.

Kaiser Permanente of Southern California — Provided \$200,000 in forgivable student loans for both the accelerated and traditional bachelor of science in nursing programs

Bill Hannon Foundation — Donated \$100,000 for the renovation of 745 W. Adams Blvd.

Thomas & Dorothy Leavey Foundation — Gave \$100,000 to the Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America exhibit

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation — Gave \$50,000 for scholarships in the accelerated bachelor of science in nursing program

Class of 1961 Golden Grads — Raised more than \$10,000 for an expendable scholarship

Margaret (Bradish) Kelley '52 Establishes Scholarship For Future Chemists

"Without a scholarship from the Mount, I wouldn't have been able to attend college," says Margaret "Peggy" (Bradish) Kelley '52. "I credit the College for helping me embark on a successful career."

Peggy knows that a solid education like the one she received from Mount St. Mary's opens many doors. After graduating with a degree in chemistry, she



worked in several labs and as a patent agent before deciding to attend law school in her forties. After graduating first in her class from Seton Hall University in New Jersey, she spent the rest of her career as a patent attorney.

This past fall, Peggy established the Margaret Bradish Kelley '52 Endowed Scholarship for chemistry majors as a way to thank the Mount for giving her such a good educational foundation. It's a legacy she is proud to leave. "I have been fortunate to be able to support the College for many years," she says. "It is good to give something back."

Designing With the Mount's Natural Beauty

By Jim Sherman as told to Sarah Scpio

I am continually in awe of the two beautiful campuses at Mount St. Mary's College. As landscape manager at the Mount, it is my privilege to care for and nurture both campus environments.

When I first saw the Mount's Doheny Campus back in 2002, I fell in love. I thought if there was ever an opportunity to work there, I would jump at the chance. A year and a half later, a position opened, and I was fortunate enough to be hired. I have been onboard now for six years.

Each campus is unique, and has its own character and set of challenges. Chalon, for example, was surrounded by chaparral and enclosed by large eucalyptus trees, which blocked wonderful views. If students were at The Circle, they couldn't see the ocean or downtown area. To further beautify the campus and showcase the amazing scenery, we opened up view corridors while maintaining the original feel of the campus.

On the Doheny Campus, we expanded the plant palette. The plants chosen for the areas around the Adams Art Walk and Hannon Hall demonstrate how our ongoing planting programs continue to diversify the types of plants found on campus while keeping with the integrity of the historic landscape. Doheny is a turf-dominated landscape, with about nine acres of lawn. To be environmentally friendly, we have been reducing areas of turf and incorporating a landscape that is healthier for trees and uses less water.

I enjoy designing and creating outdoor spaces. The most recent example is the redesign of The Circle and the installation of a fountain as a focal point. This multiuse space will provide a gathering place where students can sit in dappled shade and enjoy the background sound of falling water. To make the space even more inviting, we will soon add sweet olive shrubs that provide a pleasant fragrance.

When designing environments with trees, shrubs and flowers, the work constantly evolves. In architecture, when a building is finished, the project is complete. However, in *landscape* architecture, the project is just beginning when the landscape is first planted. The intended landscape vision takes shape as the different kinds of plant life grow together. I get a kick out of watching things grow and change. It may take five or 10 years to realize the original vision.

One of the many appealing aspects about working in a college environment is the permanence of the landscape. In residential landscape work, a new owner could readily alter the landscape design or remove plant material altogether. At a college, the trees we plant today will likely grow to full maturity. It makes me happy to know that our work has a lasting impact at Mount St. Mary's College. ♣

Jim Sherman has a degree in landscape architecture, is a certified arborist and has worked at six Southern California colleges and universities.





*“I get a kick
out of watching
things grow
and change.”*

—Jim Sherman,
MSMC’s landscape manager

alum community

welcome

We invite all alums to attend Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, at the Chalon Campus and to participate in the activities of Founders Week, Oct. 9–12. Show your MSMC pride and enjoy this great opportunity to meet and mingle with current students and fellow alums. For information about Homecoming and Founders Week, call 213.477.2769 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu/homecoming2011.



The Golden Grads of 1961 celebrate at the Baccalaureate Mass, May 2011.

class notes

'43

Mary (Sibilio) Frary became a great-grandmother two more times in October 2010. She now has four great-grandchildren.

'46

Marilyn (Menne) Hansen married George Dinsmore Hansen Jr. after World War II. They had three sons and traveled extensively, making 22 trips to Europe. They now have 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. In the summer, she visits her oldest son's family in Sandpoint, Idaho, and visits Palm Springs frequently during the winter.

'48

Portia (Hayes) Cotter was a music major and is still playing the violin at Fellowship Square living community in Mesa, Ariz.

'56

Mary Dolan-Lonergan has been interested in researching genealogy since she was inducted into the El Palo Alto Chapter of the National Society

of the Daughters of the American Revolution several years ago.

'58

Cecilia (Lucente) Costas is enjoying retirement. She volunteers at her church and in the community.

Maria Alicia Martinez is enjoying her duties as vice chair of the Docent Roundtable of the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles.

'59

Ann (Riordan) Westphal and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary with a Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass at their parish church in Tucson, Ariz., followed by a luncheon with family and friends. Classmates **Mary Alice (Schoepe) Cunningham**, **Joan (Becker) Nicholson**, **Ann (Lentz) Rasmussen** and **Janet (Lewis) Ryan-Miller** were among the guests.

'61

Carol (Trindl) Hamel and her husband have been married for 48 years and have three children and seven grandchildren. She taught

elementary school in the Rocklin (Calif.) Unified School District for 22 years and served on the Roseville Union High School Board for 19 years. In their retirement, they enjoy visiting family, traveling and volunteering in their church and community.

Margaret (Cole) Padilla retired after 17 years of teaching high school English at Los Angeles area high schools Bishop Montgomery, St. Paul and Don Bosco Tech. She also taught adult education classes for the Alhambra School District for 32 years. She enjoyed every minute of teaching.

Linda (Cox) Stellern is retired and plays bridge with the Shakespeare League of Pasadena. This spring, she danced in "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and "All That Jazz" for the league's benefit. She and her husband also travel to watch surfing contests from Hawaii to Mexico. Occasionally, she is a substitute teacher for friends in the Pasadena Unified School District.

'62

Mary (Erschoen) Morris is an adjunct professor at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies

at the University of Denver. She enjoys spending time with her three grandchildren and loves Colorado — except for the snow.

'63

Doris (Russell) Kerry is retired but still volunteers as a teacher for at-risk high school students. After 10 years in Arizona, she and her husband recently relocated to Lincoln, Calif. In the past three years, they travelled to Panama, Botswana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Belgium and Holland.

Bernice (Fijak) Lynch-Bajada and her husband traveled to Egypt and Jordan to explore the antiquities and cultures for three weeks in September 2010.

'66

Susan (Smernoff) Abler traveled to Spain in May 2010 with her sister and two childhood friends. At the end of the trip, she visited a friend she met during her school days in France before entering the Mount.

'68

Kathleen (Kimball) Cha is the national director-at-large for the American Association of University Women. She speaks across the country on equity and education, leadership development, and the media's portrayal of women and girls.

Mary (MacDonald) Koenig chairs the Greater Houston Shakespeare Competition for the English Speaking Union. She sings in the choir at Christ the King Lutheran Church, as well as in several German singing societies. In May, she and her husband sang in a concert at the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law in Mexico City. She is also active in the Blue Bird Circle, a by-invitation women's group



Reunion participants enjoy Mount Alum Day 2010.

Reunion Alert – Oct. 15, 2011

Who: Reunions this year are for the Classes of 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 – with special attention to the Silver Anniversary Class of 1986.

When: Reunions will be celebrated at Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Chalon Campus.

Volunteer Opportunity: Join your Class Reunion Committee and encourage your classmates to attend. To help make your reunion a success, contact Elizabeth (Robles) Jimenez '03, director of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2769 or erobles@msmc.la.edu.

that supports the Department of Pediatric Neurology at Texas Children's Hospital with funds and volunteer hours. This past summer, she and her husband traveled to Barcelona, Spain; Munich, Germany; and areas in southern France and Italy.

'69

Clare (Collins) Marquardt has retired after 39 years at Temple City High School in Temple City, Calif. Her youngest child graduated from California State University, Monterey Bay.

Janet (Wolff) Maulhardt and her husband celebrated their 40th anniversary with a cruise around

New Zealand and a visit to Sydney, Australia. They enjoy working on the Catholic Charities Advisory Board in Ventura County, Calif., and playing with their grandchildren.

'70

Mary (Limebrook) Burnham retired in June 2009 after teaching for 38 years. She became a grandmother in 2007.

'71

Loretta McBride volunteers to meet with engaged couples to facilitate the FOCCUS premarriage inventory at her parish in Redding, Calif.

'72

Mary K. Durando and her classmates **Kathleen (Knudsen) DeSantis**, **Roslyn (Olaes) Granger**, **Karen (Silva) Hillman**, **Beatrice (Gutierrez) Rush**, **Sharon (Pech) Schmid** and **Alicia (Gutierrez) Wilson '70** had a weekend reunion in Santa Barbara to celebrate their long years of friendship. Mary is looking forward to attending the Henley Royal Regata, a rowing event, held annually in England.

'74

Barbarann Smith and her sister went on a cruise to Haiti and Mexico. The trip was the inaugural sailing of Oasis of the Seas.

'76

Mayra Soria published her first book of poems, "La Ultima Cena," in 2010. She is working on her second book, "Nuestra America."

'79

Astra Pacold, a dentist, recently published a new book, "Laugh Until Your Ribs Hurt."

Aura Zelada is community association manager at Windsor Hills in Kissimmee, Fla. near Walt Disney World Resort. She has lived in Florida for 21 years. She traveled to Athens, Greece and enjoyed walking among the ruins.

'80

Gina (Poli) Hsiung retired in June after 27 years as cataloging and database maintenance supervisor at Oviatt Library at California State University, Northridge. She is relocating to Madera, Calif. to be near her mother. She also spent eight weeks this summer as a camp host/volunteer with the Yosemite National Parks Youth Conservation Corps.



Alicia Herrera '11 (left) and Betsy (Dickerson) Azariah '66 (right) celebrate at the Senior Dinner in May.

Seniors Give Back to the Mount

The Class of 2011 presented then President Jacqueline Powers Doud with a senior gift to the College at the Senior Farewell Dinner in April. The students raised \$1,858 and designated their gift to The Class of 2011 Scholarship in support of the next generation of Athenians. Their gift was matched dollar for dollar by Betsy (Dickerson) Azariah '66, president of the Alumnae Association, and enhanced by donations from Helen Boutrous, chair of the College's history and political science department; and Doud and her husband, Robert Doud.

Jeanne M. Jagatich-Fisher has been teaching at St. Mary's Academy in Los Angeles for the past nine years as director of the school's health careers program. If any alum would like to present information related to a health care career to the high school students, please contact her at jfisher@smabelles.org.

Roxanne (Moore) Riley works in hospice care and has enjoyed a long career in nursing and administration. She is proud to say that her sister is now going into nursing as a second career. Her husband is a firefighter and a nurse as well.

'86

Louise (Karch) Raya and her husband live in Newport Beach, Calif. She is a school administrator

with the Huntington Beach Union High School District.

'88

Adria Goppelt is married and a mother of three children. She earned her master's degree in physical therapy in 1999 and lives and works in Ventura, Calif.

Nina (Carter) Sinovia has accepted a position as director of scholarship and special programs with CollegeInvest, a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. As director, she will oversee a multi-million dollar scholarship program.

'89

Desiree (Ertle) Ritter has published in the Journal of Nursing

Management. She is house supervisor at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

'91

Lily Ibarra is a bilingual physical therapist working in the hospital outpatient setting serving the Latino community in Napa, Calif. She began treating children under age 3 in 2004 and has now treated hundreds of children within a four-county area for delayed developmental deficits.

Lisa Tapia is advancing her career as an administrative law judge with an appointment to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Appeals Division. Her new post began in July and she will be relocating to Southern California from her current home in Illinois.

'92

Sharon (Kirk) Gorman plans to spend four weeks this summer at two clinics in Haiti providing physical therapy to earthquake victims.

'94

Kristi Fregia-Rucks is one of only a few physical therapists in the country who specialize in bariatric physical therapy. She is active in the Obesity Action Coalition and is a member of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. She is a guest lecturer in the physical therapy programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Concordia University.

Justine Wright has been a physical therapist for 16 years. She has twins — a boy and a girl. She supported the Cindy Moore Scholarship for Physical Therapy, because she says Cindy Moore, former chair of the physical therapy department, was the perfect example of drive, compassion, excellence and dedication.

Give to Alum Emergency Book Fund

The Alum Emergency Book Fund was established in response to students' growing need for assistance with the rising cost of textbooks. The fund will provide students with extraordinary financial need a grant for textbook purchases. The average college student spends nearly \$900 on textbooks each year. A grant from the Alum Emergency Book Fund can make all the difference to students by helping them acquire necessary books.

Any gift you make to this fund will be greatly appreciated. Not only will your donation help students now, but it will let them know the Alumnae Association cares. This is part of the Mount's mission to give back. Our hope is that when students become alums, they will remember our helping hand and extend one to future students themselves.

To contribute, visit www.msmcalums.la.edu/mountfund or send your gift to Alum Emergency Book Fund, MSMC, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007. For more information, call alumnae relations at 213.477.2767.

'96

Mary (Dunn) Nalick was named director of mental health services at Homeboy Industries. This nonprofit agency, founded by Father Greg Boyle, SJ, helps at-risk and former gang-involved youth become contributing members in the community through a variety of services in response to their multiple needs.

'00

Nury Yoo has joined the firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck in the Albuquerque, N.M., office.

'03

Mariliese (Segismundo)

Horsewood has been working for the Southwest Gas Corp. since 2007 and was recently promoted to senior financial analyst in the corporate development department.

'07

Bev Suson continues to work as an elementary school teacher at St. Patrick Catholic School in North Hollywood, Calif.

two by two

The Alumnae Association extends best wishes to the following alums and their spouses:

'02 Valerie Gonzalez to David Bonilla
'06 Abigail Peak to Andy Hughes
'05 Kristen Shadburn to George Larios

by-lines

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to the following alums and their spouses on the birth of their children:

'08 Isabella Katherine Ramos to Kathleen Castellanos, first child
'03 Aiden Valentino Villalba to Jennifer (McCreight) Villalba, second child
'03 Jaxon Theodore Waters to Geovanna (Henao) Waters, first child

requiescant

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

- '45 Margaret Rush
- '48 husband of Phyllis (Kirby) Jones
- '48 Nanette (Teresi) Larrinaga
- '48 Elizabeth Peukert
- '49 Adelaide (Spuhler) Mealy
- '51 husband of Evelyn (Kraemer) Francuz
- '54 husband of Joyce (Markel) Brown
- '54 Georga Grupe
- '56 husband of Margaret (Munnemann) Cohen
- '59 brother of Sister Annette Bower, CSJ
- '60 Rita Boags
- '62 Sheila (Curran) McDonald
- '63 mother of Christine (Ver Halen) Simon and Johanna (Ver Halen) Budman '68
- '64 Virginia (Speltz) Mullin
- '64 mother of Sister Keiran Vaughan, CSJ and Sister Judy Vaughan, CSJ, '68
- '68 Rose Mary Carroll-Johnson
- '69 Sister Mary Carlann Paganelli, CSJ
- '83 son of Adrienne Allison
- '87 Lindell Eldred
- '99 Inez Feeney

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of the following former faculty members of the College:

Howard Langer, former adjunct faculty in the business administration

department, who taught accounting and finance in the MBA and baccalaureate programs

Cindy Moore, former longtime faculty member and chair of the physical therapy department

They will be remembered in the Masses, prayers and good works of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and the Mount Community.

advanced degrees

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums for their successful pursuit of intellectual achievement:

- '89 Desiree Ertle-Ritter, MA in health administration, University of La Verne, May 2010
- '07 Bev Suson, credential and MA in elementary education, Loyola Marymount University, May 2011

NOTE: We are proud of all of our alums and are happy to showcase your academic achievements. Please let us know when you receive an advanced degree and include the date and the name of the institution granting the degree. In order to keep this feature current, please do not go back any further than four years or send information that has already appeared in Class Notes.

Stay on the Cutting Edge

Log in to Mount AlumLine to:

- find out the latest alum activities
- RSVP to alum events
- update your personal information
- chat online
- make a gift to MSMC

To log in, go to www.msmlalums.la.edu; you will need your Alum ID#. You can find it directly above your name on the address panel of this magazine.

E-mail Update

Please make sure we have your current e-mail address, so we can stay in touch.

Alumnae Legacy Grant

Alum offspring are entitled to a \$1,000 grant, renewable every year upon enrolling at MSMC. To apply, contact Alumnae Relations.

Alum Privilege Card

You need this card to use the Mount fitness centers or libraries. Log in to AlumLine (Web address above) and click on Alum Privilege Card on the left navigation bar.

Enrichment Courses

You are entitled to audit one course a semester for personal enrichment at no charge. No credit will be given. Contact Alumnae Relations to get the audit waiver form.

Career Planning

Alums can get free career-planning advice by visiting the Career Center during regular hours either as a walk-in client or by appointment with a counselor. To search the center's online job listing, go to www.mountcareernetwork.com. You will need to complete an initial registration process.

Questions?

Please call Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.

Remembering the Mount

Thinking of including the Mount in your estate plan? Please let us know. There are many ways to do this. We can help you decide which is best for you. Contact Cindy Hizami, director of planned giving, at 213.477.2740 or chizami@msmc.la.edu.



The Music of Faith

By Sister Teresita Espinosa, CSJ, '59 as told to Aaron Smith

I grew up with music in Mexico. My mom and dad, who was a doctor, and my grandfather and uncle, who were lawyers, all loved music. I took piano lessons and gave recitals. Later, I was sent to the United States to learn English. At 17, I felt called to give myself to God. I thought that was the end of my musical career — whatever the Lord wanted me to do, that was what I wanted. But while I was learning to be a sister, the community decided to have me continue my education in music.

I received my bachelor's degree in music from Mount St. Mary's College, and I began teaching courses while finishing my master's and doctoral degrees at USC. I never thought I would be at the Mount for long, but very soon I was asked to take on more responsibility. I became a full-time faculty member and the music department chair in 1972. During the summers, I continued my postdoctoral work at Harvard, Yale and Oxford.

I have loved being in the music department at the Mount. The distinguished faculty members have been great companions. And, of course, I love my students and have been blessed to have known so many — not just the gifted music majors, but also the students going into nursing or political science who took music appreciation courses to

awaken their interest in fine arts. I often saw their minds opening to things they never thought about, and I love that.

Many music students are amazing performers when they arrive, and they have a real desire to improve, but they don't have any training in the theory of music. It's exciting when those students go on to learn more about music analysis and history, and then are able to confidently pass it along to others.

Now I am passing on the leadership of the department to a wonderful person, Sister Therese Fassnacht, BVM. I didn't do that until I knew we had someone who understood our department and had the qualifications.

I continue to teach, and I am enjoying every bit of it. For my course called "Guided Experiences to the Arts," I take students to the theater, museums and concerts. For "Arts in Europe," we go to London, Paris, Rome and Florence, where every moment is filled with the aroma of the arts. The experience opens windows of opportunity for the students.

For me, music is a gift of God. God speaks to us in so many different ways, and music is very much a part of how we not only try to understand the sacredness, beauty and mystery of God, but also how we try to express that beautiful sacred mystery. Faith works slowly, and sometimes obscurely, but music can express faith in a way that is not expressible otherwise. ♣

Sister Teresita Espinosa, CSJ, '59 is a professor of music at Mount St. Mary's College.

JOIN US...

on Oct. 15, for Homecoming 2011. Reunions this year will be celebrated by the classes of 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006. For more information, contact Elizabeth (Robles) Jimenez '03, director of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2769 or erobles@msmc.la.edu.

on Dec. 17, to tour the historic Doheny Mansion. Tours are at 9, 9:45, 10:30 and 11:15 a.m. For more information, go to www.dohenymansion.org or call 213.477.2962. Tickets are \$25 per person.

The following calendar represents only some of the events at Mount St. Mary's College. For more up-to-date listings, visit www.msmc.la.edu and click on "Calendars." For alumnae events, visit www.msmcalums.la.edu.



Doheny Mansion, Doheny Campus

october

- 9–12 Founders Week Activities, Alumnae Relations, 213.477.2767
- 15 Homecoming, Alumnae Relations, 213.477.2767
- 15 Homecoming Concert Premiering the Mount Orchestra, Chalon Campus, 310.954.4265
- 30 Application Deadline, Master's in Business, Education, Humanities, Nursing, Psychology and Religious Studies Programs (Spring 2012), 213.477.2800

november

- 7 Ninth Annual Patricia A. Reif Memorial Lecture, Doheny Campus, 213.477.2640

december

- 1 Application Deadline, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (Fall 2012), 213.477.2800
- 2 Christmas Choral Concert, Chalon Campus, 310.954.4265
- 3 Application Deadline, Weekend College (Spring 2012), 213.477.2866
- 17 Doheny Mansion Public Tours, 213.477.2767



1929 — Brady Hall goes up on a steep hillside.

1929

According to the “official” history, Mount St. Mary’s College paid \$4,500 an acre to the Rodeo Land & Water Co. for the 33-1/3 acres that became the Chalon Campus. Although \$150,000 was a lot of money in 1929, today it seems like a spectacular bargain.

The “real” story, however, is even better. According to a recently discovered grant deed, the sisters paid the Los Angeles Mountain Park Co. a grand total of \$10 for the property. Talk about bargains.

Real estate developers in the 1920s knew that a college campus could anchor a new neighborhood and boost sales. A number of similar deals date from that time, including a donation of land for UCLA. Foremost among donors was oilman Alphonzo Bell. His companies, including the Los Angeles Mountain Park Co., developed the mountain front from Sepulveda Boulevard to the ocean. Bell contributed part of the UCLA campus and even tried to persuade his alma mater, Occidental College, to relocate to the Westside. As generous as he was, the area of Brentwood Heights that became the Mount also fit nicely into his sales strategy.

So where did the discrepancy in Mount history come from? That remains a mystery. The Rodeo Land & Water deal is written into the College’s corporate minutes of March 25, 1929. The grant deed with Los Angeles Mountain Park was recorded with Los Angeles County six months later, on Sept. 29, 1929. The later deal was never recorded in the minutes.

Was it an oversight or error, or did something suddenly change? Maybe someday the facts will emerge. In the meantime, the “real” history is every bit as interesting as the “official” one. ♣

— Victoria McCargar, College archivist



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